

**Strafford Selectboard Meeting**  
Wednesday, September 14, 2022 6:00 pm  
Strafford Town Office

Participating members: Toni Pippy, Brian Johnson, Jeff Solsaa, and Mary Linehan (by zoom)

Others participating: by zoom and in person, Greg Colling, Brett Tofel, Kevin Lynch, Ken and Karen Odell, Thomas Bossert, Phoebe Mix, Susan Cloke, Rockwell Fuller, Olivia Trey Piepmeier, Carol Bushway, Rebecca Seidel, and Marty Frank

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Public concerns. Speeding in the villages. Traditional and calming signs will be looked into. Speeding has increased in the upper village since the sheriff dept's calming sign was moved to the school area. Carol Bushway is also concerned about speeding on turnpike Rd.
2. Highways. Beavers are an issue on Old City Falls Rd. PD will handle it. All the town trucks need tires. Sand is continuing to be hauled. Russel Stone will be employed on a temporary basis after filling out the paperwork needed. Old City and Miller Pond ditching is completed. Grading continues. If the old concrete culvert on Whitcomb hill is not removed by the contractor that did the work, the town will remove it at the homeowner's expense. Tyson bridge will be closed for approximately 3 weeks while painting is being done. The town will be responsible for detour signs. PD has reditched water on Alger Brook Rd to prevent damage. PD will meet Rita, from Two Rivers to go over state maps for use on town culverts. Lisa will update Municipal Rds general permit change for the next 5 years, 2023-2028.
3. Town office. The board, after clarification, and discussion about Tom Bachman's \$15,400 price to do a feasibility study on the town office, with two options, voted to approve unanimously Toni's motion, Mary 2nd, to have Tom Bachman do only option two for the work on the building. With a reduced and more acceptable price of \$12,700. Option two includes requirements from the new town office committee. David Paganelli was appointed to represent the Selectboard, on a committee to work along with Tom Bachman on a feasibility study. The board agreed that scope or purpose of the proposed feasibility study first and foremost is to address the Town Office needs for workspace, state-legislated file and record storage, health and safety consideration and other critical aspects of functionality which is detailed in the Town Office Planning Committee Report, dated September 7, 2021. Also, to determine the physical changes, land acquisition and building expansion that is required to renovate and add on to the current Town Office building with a full and detailed estimation of costs. Brian moved that Greg Colling, Curt Albee, Rocky Fuller, Shelby Coburn, Anni Praetorius, and Geoff Martin be appointed as well. Toni 2nd. The vote was not decided, and Toni moved that the Town Office committee members be David Paganelli, selectboard representative, Curt Albee, Rocky Fuller, Shelby Coburn, Anni Praetorious and Geoff Martin. Jeff 2nd, the vote passed, Toni yes, Mary yes, Jeff yes, Brian no. Toni made a motion to move forward on a survey of the town office by Tom Otterman. Jeff 2nd, all approved.
4. Odell Road was thrown up as a town road in the 1960s and was never removed from the state of Vermont map. Andrus Rd was added in 1988 but was never added to the state map. Lisa will continue to deal with road and state issues to provide documentations.  
Lisa is meeting Monday to clarify new grant for FY23 for technical assistance billing.
5. Toni moved, Jeff 2nd to approve minutes of August 24th, 2022, all approved.

6. There was discussion about Juneteenth and Martin Luther King Day be paid holidays for town employees. Brian moved to approve; the rest of the board was not ready for a vote. Issue tabled. Jeff moved to make only Martin Luther King Day a paid holiday, Toni 2nd. Vote was approved by all.
7. Rocky spoke to the board about work to be done at the meeting house, move path to back house, (privy), further from the main building to reduce extra work removing snow. Improve handicap access. Work to be done on the bell tower.
8. Liaison updates. Planning commission making progress with new ordinances. Learn about IJA from Federal government for local communities. Toni will contact Paul Gillies about sale of town properties.
9. Correspondence:
  - Geoff Martin, IREC Coordinator, RE: August IREC Progress Report
  - Donald Graham, Chair, Planning Commission, RE: Unified Bylaw
  - Rocky Fuller, THAG Minutes for 7/21/22 meeting
  - Thomas Otterman, Otterman Surveying & Septic Design, RE: Project Cost and Contract (see item 4c)
  - John Freitag, RE: Thoughts on approaching the Congressional delegation
  - The Bridge 30 Group, RE: Update on investigation of options
  - John Freitag, RE: funding opportunity
  - John Freitag, RE: Willing to help
  - Letter from town employees proposing that town recognize and observe Juneteenth and Martin Luther King Day. (See item 5)
  - Thomas Bachman, AIA, Town Office Contract
  - Kyle Katz, TRORC, re: new round of FEMA funding for hazard mitigation projects.
  - Heather Simons. Exec Director, VT Criminal Justice Council, RE: Constables

Meeting adjourned at 8:20

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Johnson  
Board Member, Acting Recording Clerk